

Claims

1. An RF receiver comprising:
  - an input for receiving an RF signal containing a stream of broadcast data, said stream of broadcast data including primary data and regional data, wherein the primary data is intended to be distributed over a broadcast area and the regional data is specific to a select geographic region of the broadcast area;
  - a device for selecting a user specific region;
  - a decoder for acquiring the regional data from the stream of broadcast data;
  - a data processor for processing the regional data and the selected user specific region to obtain regional data designated for the selected user specific region; and
  - an output for outputting the regional data pertaining to the selected user specific region.
2. The receiver as defined in claim 1, wherein the device for selecting the user specific region comprises a user interface input.
3. The receiver as defined in claim 1, wherein the RF broadcast data comprises digital data.
4. The receiver as defined claim 3, wherein the RF receiver comprises a digital radio receiver.
5. The RF receiver as defined in claim 1, wherein the receiver is employed on a vehicle.
6. The receiver as defined in claim 1, wherein the data processor processes a block of regional data having a region identifier and

compares the selected user specific region to the region identifier to determine if the block of regional data pertains to the selected user specific region.

7. The receiver as defined in claim 1, wherein the data processor performs a de-interleaving routine to compile regional data pertaining to the selected user specific region.

8. The receiver as defined in claim 7, wherein the de-interleaving routine compiles regional data from a plurality of blocks of regional data within the stream of broadcast data.

9. The receiver as defined in claim 1, wherein the input comprises an antenna.

10. A method of providing regional data from a stream of broadcast data to a user via an RF receiver, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an RF signal containing a stream of broadcast data, said stream of broadcast data including primary data and regional data, wherein the primary data is intended to be distributed over a broadcast area and the regional data is specific to a select geographic region of the broadcast area;

receiving a selection of a user specific region;

acquiring the regional data from the stream of broadcast data;

processing the regional data and the selected user specific region to obtain regional data designated for the selected user specific region; and

providing the regional data pertaining to the selected user specific region as an output.

11. The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the step of receiving an RF signal comprises receiving digital data.
12. The receiver as defined in claim 10, wherein the user specific region is selected by a user entering the user specific region with a user interface input.
13. The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the step of processing the regional data comprises processing a block of regional data having a region identifier and comparing the selected user specific region to the region identifier to determine if the block of regional data pertains to the selected user specific region.
14. The method as defined in claim 10, further comprising the step of compiling data pertaining to the selected user specific region.
15. The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the step of compiling comprises acquiring a plurality of blocks of regional data and concatenating the plurality of blocks of regional data to form a regional data message.
16. The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the broadcast data comprises audio radio data.
17. The method as defined in claim 16, wherein the method is performed on a digital radio receiver.
18. The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the receiver is located on a vehicle.